

United States
Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Water
(4305T)



Water Quality Standards Academy

-Basic Course-

April 28 - May 2, 2003

Washington, D.C.



**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY**

-----BASIC COURSE-----

**Training Course Announcement
April 28 - May 2, 2003 in Washington, D.C.**

Location of Session

Ariel Rios Building, Room 6226
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460
Entrance at the South Oval Lobby
(Near Federal Triangle Metro entrance)

Course Description

The "Water Quality Standards Academy" is a basic introductory course designed for those with fewer than six months of experience with water quality standards. This is a comprehensive and highly structured course that introduces participants to all aspects of the water quality standards program, including the interpretation and application of the water quality standards regulation; policies and program guidance; the development of water quality criteria (human health, aquatic life, nutrient and biological); and other facets of the program. A description of the training modules to be presented during the course appears on page 2 of this application packet.

The course is conducted over a five-day period. This session will be held at the Ariel Rios Building - Room 6226, Washington, DC. The session will begin on Monday, April 28, at 8:00 a.m. and will end at approximately 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 2, 2003.

Pre-application

The course is offered free of charge; however, **you must apply to attend**. Either apply online at:

<http://www.glec-online.com/form.htm>

or fill out the form provided in this announcement and mail or fax it to EPA's contractor at the following address:

Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator
c/o Great Lakes Environmental Center
1295 King Avenue
Columbus, OH 43212
-OR-
FAX it to (614) 487-1920

to arrive no later than **Friday, March 14, 2003**

DO NOT APPLY MORE THAN ONCE

Please note that because seats in the class are very limited, EPA reserves the right to accept applications based on a balanced mix of participants.

Due to the large amount of educational material to be covered during the course, participants **MUST BE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES**. Pre-application does **NOT** guarantee your attendance. **YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING AS TO WHETHER YOUR APPLICATION TO ATTEND THE TRAINING COURSE HAS BEEN ACCEPTED**. A confirmation or rejection notice will be sent approximately one month prior to the start of the class.

**PLEASE DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL
ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL EPA CONFIRMS
YOUR ATTENDANCE IN WRITING.**

Participants are responsible for their own travel, lodging, and other expenses. Information about hotel availability follows. Please observe cutoff date for course registration.

The following information on nearby hotels is provided as a courtesy only. No block of rooms has been reserved.

Hotel Harrington
436 11th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
(corner of 11th and E Streets, NW- walking distance)
Reservations: 800-424-8532
www.hotel-harrington.com

Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel
480 L'Enfant Plaza SW (2 Metro stops away)
Washington, DC 20024
Reservations: 202-484-1000
www.loewshotels.com

Special rates for these and other hotels may be found on the web via selected sites (e.g., Expedia.com, Orbitz.com, etc.)

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
2003 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY**

DESCRIPTION OF MODULES

Module 1: Introductions and Participant Expectations

Introduces the course and addresses participant expectations.

Module 2: Overview of EPA, the Clean Water Act, and the Water Quality Standards Program

Presents a short overview of the function and mission of the EPA, Office of Water, a history of the Clean Water Act (CWA), and an overview of the water quality standards (WQS) program.

Module 3: Designated Uses

Covers State-designated use classifications, how uses are designated, how designated uses can be removed, and the distinction between designated and existing uses.

Module 4: Conducting Use Attainability Analyses

Provides a basic understanding of Use Attainability Analyses in developing water quality standards, and explains when a Use Attainability Analysis is required.

Module 5: Principles of Risk Assessment, Management and Communication

Introduces the basic principles of risk assessment, management and communication, and their role in developing and implementing water quality standards.

Module 7: Introduction to Criteria Development

Provides an introduction to the different types of water quality criteria.

Module 8: Human Health Criteria

Presents the basic concepts of human health criteria and methods for calculating criteria.

Module 9: Aquatic Life Criteria

Provides information on how to develop chemical-specific, numeric, aquatic life criteria.

Module 10: Sediment Assessments

Will present a broad overview of the sediment environment, sources of sediment contaminants, and the tools used to characterize sediments.

Module 11: Biological Criteria

Provides an overview of the biocriteria program, including the development of biocriteria and the components needed to implement biocriteria.

Module 12: Nutrient Criteria

Provides an overview of the application of nutrient criteria within the context of water quality standards.

Module 14: Antidegradation Policy Requirements

Provides an understanding of how State/Tribal antidegradation policies protect existing water quality.

Module 15: Variances

Provides an overview of the requirements for variances and their uses in the water quality standards program.

Module 16: Economic Considerations

Provides a basic understanding of when it is appropriate to consider economic conditions within the water quality standards process and how to evaluate claims of adverse economic impacts.

Module 17: Mixing Zones

Defines and outlines recommended methodologies for determining mixing zones.

Module 18: WQS Submittal and Approval Process

Presents an overview of the administrative process required for submission of State and Indian Tribal water quality standards. Describes the process by which EPA reviews State and Tribal adopted water quality standards. Discusses the types of approvals possible and Federal promulgation procedures.

Module 19: Endangered Species Act and the Water Quality Standards Program

Presents a brief overview of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and how it relates to the water quality standards program.

Module 19a: 401 Certification

Provides an overview of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act as it applies to States and Indian Tribes for the protection of our Nation's rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands.

Module 20: Implementation of Water Quality Standards

Presents the process by which adopted water quality standards are implemented and introduces enforcement procedures.

Module 21: Water Quality Standards on Indian Reservations

Provides information on the requirements for Indian Tribes to administer the water quality standards program. Discusses mechanisms for resolving disputes when an Indian Tribe and a State adopt different standards for the same waterbody.

Module 22: WQS Terminology

Provides a review of terms, definitions, and concepts used in the water quality standards program, and the fundamentals of toxicology, risk assessment, and risk communication.

Module 23: Wrap-Up/Feedback

Determines if participant expectations of the training course were met. Seeks to obtain feedback on the usefulness of the course.

**PRE-APPLICATION AND
OTHER LOGISTICAL INFORMATION**

PRE-APPLICATION INFORMATION:

You **MUST** apply for the course by either applying online at: <http://www.glec-online.com/form.htm> or completing the form provided at the back of this packet. Apply online or return the form by **Friday, March 14, 2003** to EPA's contractor at the following address:

**Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator
c/o Great Lakes Environmental Center
1295 King Avenue, Columbus, OH 43212
FAX: (614) 487-1920**

Telephone pre-applications will NOT be accepted.

A confirmation or rejection letter will be mailed to you approximately one month prior to the start of the session. **DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL EPA CONFIRMS YOUR ATTENDANCE IN WRITING.**

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS: If you need special accommodations at this training (including wheelchair access), you should contact Great Lakes Environmental Center at (614) 487-1040 at least five business days before the training so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

HOTEL INFORMATION AND CLASS LOCATION:

You are responsible for making your own travel and hotel arrangements.

Class Location:

Ariel Rios Building, Room 6226
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460
Entrance at the South Oval Lobby

Please note that the training is in Federal space. You will need to sign in, be screened and escorted to the classroom.

Lodging: The following information on nearby hotels is provided as a courtesy only. No block of rooms has been reserved.

Hotel Harrington
436 11th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
(corner of 11th and E Streets, NW- walking distance)
Reservations: 800-424-8532
www.hotel-harrington.com

Loews L'Enfant Plaza Hotel
480 L'Enfant Plaza SW (2 Metro stops away)
Washington, DC 20024
Reservations: 202-484-1000
www.loewshotels.com

Special rates for these and other hotels can be found on the web via selected sites (e.g., Expedia.com, Orbitz.com, etc.)

Driving Directions: Bringing an automobile into the district is strongly discouraged. Please use the Metro system. Parking is available at many stations, but may be limited.

Taxi Information:

One way taxi fare from Ronald Reagan National Airport is approximately \$18.

One way taxi fare from Dulles Airport is approximately \$50.

Metro Directions from Reagan National Airport: Take the Yellow Line from the airport and transfer to either the Blue Line or Orange Line at the L'Enfant Plaza Station. Take either the Blue Line or Orange Line to the Federal Triangle Metro Station.

Exit via escalator at Federal Triangle, and when you come out of the Metro Station, turn left and walk into entrance at the South Building Oval Lobby. Access to the building is via this entrance. The session will be held on the sixth floor (6226). As this is Federal space, you will need to present identification, sign in, be screened and escorted to the classroom.

Shuttle Bus/Metro Directions from Dulles Airport: Take the Washington Flyer Bus to the West Falls Church Metro stop (approx. \$8 per person, 40 minute drive). Then take the metro via the Orange line to the Federal Triangle Metro Station. Exit at Federal Triangle (see above for directions).

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
2003 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY**

PRE-APPLICATION FORM

RETURN TO EPA'S CONTRACTOR AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator
Great Lakes Environmental Center
1295 King Avenue
Columbus, OH 43212

**PRE-APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE APRIL 28-MAY2, 2003
SESSION MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY MARCH 14, 2003.**

OR FAX TO: (614) 487-1920

I WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS ACADEMY
TRAINING AT THE ARIEL RIOS BUILDING IN WASHINGTON, DC (April 28-May 2, 2003)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organizational Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

EPA Region (1-10, HQ or Other): _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, AS THEY WILL HELP YOUR INSTRUCTORS PREPARE THEIR MATERIALS

Number of years experience with water quality standards? Please check one that applies:

_____ Fewer than 6 months _____ 1-3 Years _____ 6 months to 1 year _____ 4 Years or more

What are your expectations of this course? _____

Do you have any specific questions that you would like answered? _____

EPA WILL CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE IN WRITING **APPROXIMATELY** 1 MONTH BEFORE THE START OF THE SESSION.
REMEMBER: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING YOUR OWN HOTEL AND TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL EPA'S CONTRACTOR:

Water Quality Standards Academy Coordinator
Great Lakes Environmental Center
(614) 487-1040